

CLAIMS:

1. A method of monitoring and controlling a plurality of aircraft cabin systems using a user interface having a touch sensitive display and a plurality of input keys corresponding to the plurality of aircraft cabin systems, the method comprising:

5 activating one of said input keys corresponding to a first system of said plurality of aircraft cabin systems to display a first system graphical menu having status information and operating functions of said first system;

touching a touch sensitive input area of said first system graphical menu to perform at least one of selection and control of said operating functions of said first system;

10 activating another one of said input keys corresponding to a second system of said plurality of aircraft cabin systems to display a second system graphical menu having status information and operating functions of said second system;

touching a touch sensitive input area of said second system graphical menu to perform at least one of selection and control of said operating functions of said second system.

15 2. The method of claim 1, further comprising activating at least one of an area of the touch sensitive display and one of said input keys to display a main menu that simultaneously depicts essential information representing system status about at least said first and second systems, said main menu allowing the user to select a desired one of said first and second system menus from said main menu.

20 3. The method of claim 1, further comprising determining a graphical menu displayed on said display by viewing a header line on the display that identifies which of said graphical menus that is being displayed.

4. The method of Claim 1, wherein said plurality of aircraft cabin systems comprise at least two of: a cabin information system, a cabin audio system, a cabin video system, a

cabin lighting system, a cabin air conditioning system, a cabin smoke detector system, an aircraft door monitoring system, and a water supply and wastewater system.

5. The method of claim 4, wherein said first system is said cabin audio system, said first system graphical menu is a cabin audio system graphical menu including display indicators and touch sensitive input buttons, said method further comprising monitoring, selecting and playing pre-recorded announcements of said cabin audio system using said audio system graphical menu.

6. The method of Claim 5, further comprising activating said touch sensitive input buttons of the cabin audio system graphical menu to select a plurality of pre-recorded 10 announcements to be queued and played in sequence by said audio system.

7. The method of claim 4, wherein said first system is said cabin audio system, said first system graphical menu is a cabin audio system graphical menu including display indicators and touch sensitive input buttons, said method further comprising monitoring and adjusting an on-board music channel of said cabin audio system using said audio system 15 graphical menu.

8. The method of claim 4, wherein said first system is said cabin lighting system, said first system graphical menu is a cabin lighting system graphical menu including display indicators and touch sensitive input buttons, said method further comprising monitoring, selecting and adjusting said cabin lighting system of different areas in an aircraft cabin using 20 said cabin lighting system graphical menu.

9. The method of claim 8, further comprising activating said touch sensitive input buttons to select one of three brightness levels of illumination by said cabin lighting system in cabin entry zones of said aircraft cabin.

10. The method of claim 1, wherein said first cabin system is said aircraft door 25 monitoring system, said first system graphical menu is a cabin door monitoring system

graphical menu including display indicators and input buttons, said method further comprising monitoring each door and hatch of the aircraft and determining a respective status thereof using said cabin door monitoring system graphical menu.

11. A method of monitoring and controlling a plurality of aircraft cabin systems using
5 a user interface having a touch sensitive display and a plurality of input keys corresponding to
the plurality of aircraft cabin systems, the method comprising:

monitoring a main menu on said display, said main menu depicting essential
information representing a system status of first and second systems of said plurality of
aircraft cabin systems;

10 activating one of said input keys corresponding to said first system to display a first
system graphical menu having status information and operating functions of said first system;

touching a touch sensitive input area of said first system graphical menu to perform at
least one of selection and control of said operating functions of said first system;

15 activating another one of said input keys corresponding to said second system to
display a second system graphical menu having status information and operating functions of
said second system;

touching a touch sensitive input area of said second system graphical menu to perform
at least one of selection and control of said operating functions of said second system.

12. The method of Claim 11, wherein said monitoring comprises monitoring a main
20 menu that depicts essential information representing a system status of at least two of: a cabin
information system, a cabin audio system, a cabin video system, a cabin lighting system, a
cabin air conditioning system, a cabin smoke detector system, an aircraft door monitoring
system, and a water supply and wastewater system.

13. The method of claim 11, further comprising activating at least one of an area of
said touch screen and one of said input keys while one of said graphical menus is displayed in
order to return to said main menu.

14. The method of claim 11, further comprising activating at least one of an area of
said touch screen and one of said input keys while one of said graphical menus is displayed in
order to display a programming menu for programming an aircraft cabin system
corresponding to said one of said graphical menus.

15. The method of claim 11 further comprising determining a graphical menu
displayed on said display by viewing a header line on the display that identifies which of said
graphical menus that is being displayed.